Attorney Docket Number: DEP5292USNP

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

 Inventor:
 Moore
 Group Art Unit: 3733

 Serial No.:
 10/821,284
 Examiner: Hoffman, Mary

 Filed:
 April 9, 2004
 Confirmation No. 1111

 Title:
 Instruments and Methods for Minimally Invasive Spine Surgery

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via The United States Patent and Trademark Office electronic filing system in accordance with 37 CFR 1.6(a)(4)

October 22, 2009
(Date of Transmission)

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/Anw Pelletier/
(Signature of person filing)

October 22, 2009
(Date of Signature)

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 41.33(a)

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action of April 23, 2009, please amend the aboveidentified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.